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DE RUEHOS #0091 0381603
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FM AMCONSUL LAGOS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8481
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA PRIORITY 8309
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY 0122
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ PRIORITY 0102
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 0109
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY 0120
RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAHLC/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAAIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 000091

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/W
STATE FOR INR/AA
WARSAW FOR LISA PIASCIK
CIUDAD JUAREZ FOR DONNA BLAIR
ISTANBUL FOR TASHAWNA SMITH
SAO PAULO FOR ANDREW WITHERSPOON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/07/2017

TAGS: CASC EPET KDEM NI PGOV PREL

SUBJECT: SITREP 10: BRITISH NATIONAL MIRRLEES RELEASED;
AMERICAN AND NIGERIAN HOSTAGES REMAIN CAPTIVE

REF: LAGOS 87

Classified By: Consul General Brian L. Browne for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

¶1. (C) Around 7:30 AM on February 7, militants released British national Neil Mirrlees due to the noticeable decline in his health since being held hostage. Mirrlees has been taken to a health clinic in Port Harcourt. Pivot will fly Mirrlees, a long time resident of Port Harcourt, to Lagos February 8. Most likely, Mirrlees will be flown to the United Kingdom for further medical treatment. American citizen Bill Graham and Nigerian national Ezekiel Akwa remain in captivity.

¶2. (C) John Walker of Control Risks Group met Mirrlees at the Port Harcourt clinic. Walker reported to the Pivot-GIS Hostage Crisis Group on February 7 that Mirrlees had lost weight but appeared unharmed. Mirrlees told Walker that Bill Graham and Ezekiel Akwa were upset at not also being released. Walker reported money had been exchanged to effectuate the Mirrlees release but could not provide further details including the amount of the payment.

¶3. (C) We continue to attend the daily Hostage Crisis Group meetings and to be in contact with pertinent state government officials to push for the release of Amcit Graham and Nigerian national Akwa.

BROWNE